



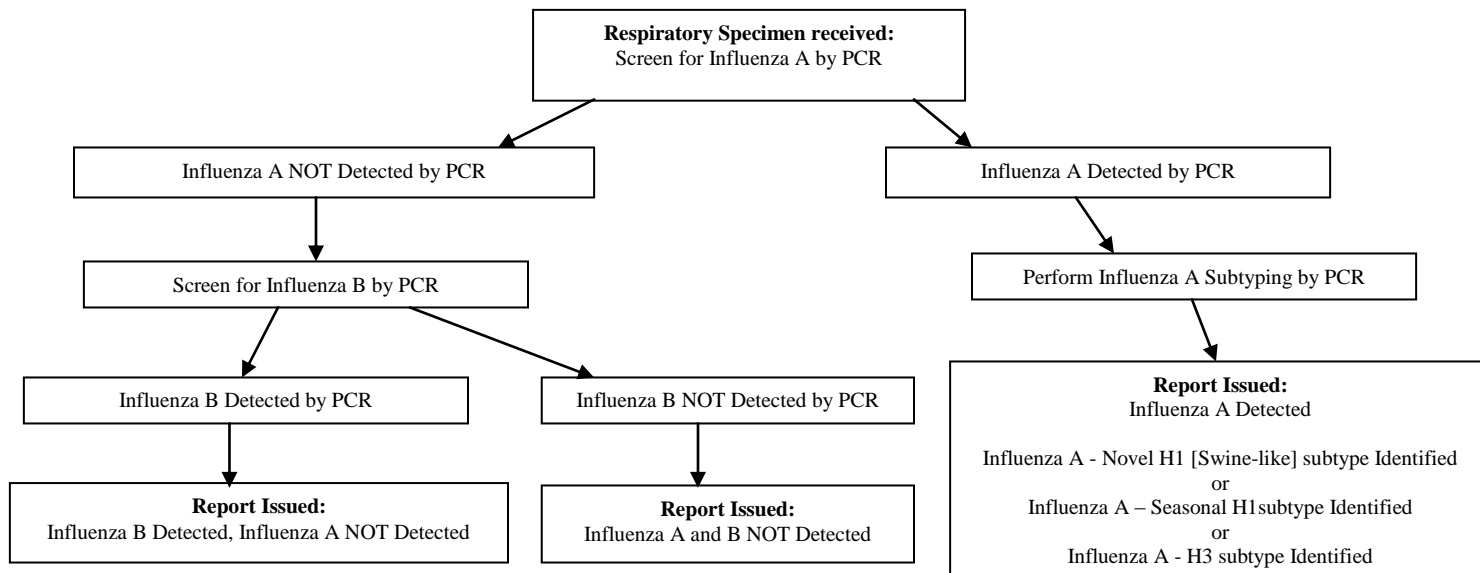
## 2009-10 Influenza Laboratory Update # 5

Montana Public Health Laboratory 1-800-821-7284 email: [mtphl@mt.gov](mailto:mtphl@mt.gov)  
<http://healthlab.hhs.mt.gov/>

*This information is being sent to local clinical laboratory contacts, Infectious Disease physicians, and other select partners.*

### ◆ Laboratory Testing Algorithm

We continue to receive calls that ask if a test specifically for 2009 H1N1 influenza was performed. All specimens are screened with the Influenza A PCR test, as it is slightly more sensitive than the subtyping. Subtyping will only be performed if the PCR test is positive for Influenza A. See the algorithm below:



### ◆ Laboratory Workload Numbers

For the week ending October 31 (Week 43), all Influenza A specimens continue to subtype as 2009 H1N1. The volume of specimens received for testing in the Montana Public Health Laboratory was down compared to previous weeks. There were no positive Influenza B specimens. See the graph and data at

<http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/PHSD/Lab/enviro-lab-index.shtml>

### ◆ Interested in the National Trends?

The Centers for Disease Control publish a weekly update on their Influenza webpage. You can look at virologic surveillance, antigenic characteristics, and anti-viral resistance of the circulating Influenza viruses as well as additional surveillance information. <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>